MINUTES

OF THE

Forty-Sixth Annual Session

OF THE

HOWARD COLLEGE
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Canaan Baptist Association,

HELD WITH

SPRINGVILLE CHURCH,

ST. CLAIR COUNTY, ALA.

October 3d and 4th, 1879.

A. J. WALDROP, Moderator,.....Wood's Station, Ala.
E. B. WALDROP, Clerk,..... " " "

BIRMINGHAM ALA.:
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1879.

Order of Business.

1. Reading letters from Churches and enrolling names of delegates.
2. Electing officers.
3. Receive correspondence from other bodies.
4. Appoint special committees.
5. Return correspondence.
6. Hear reports from standing committees.
7. Hear reports from special committees.
8. Appoint standing committees.
9. Hear Treasurers's report.
10. Fix time and place of next meeting.
11. Elect ministers to preach annual sermons.
12. Resolutions and recommendations.
13. Miscellaneous business.

MINUTES

OF THE

CANAAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

SPRINGVILLE, ST. CLAIR CO., Friday Oct. 3, 1879.

The Delegates composing the Forty-Sixth Session of the CANAAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION met with the Springville Church this day, at 11 o'clock, a. m.. Elder M. M. Wood, the appointee for preaching at this hour being absent, the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder A. J. Waldrop, from Matt. xxviii, 19, 20.

At 2 o'clock p. m., the body convened in the church-house and was called to order by the Moderator, Elder A. J. Waldrop. After singing and prayer, the letters from the churches were presented and read by J. H. Hendon and T. V. B. Moor, and delegates names enrolled as follows:

Springville.—A. J. Nunnelly, Wm. Herring, T. V. B. Moor, R. Tims.

Birmingham.—Elder J. H. Hendon, N. F. Miles, J. M. Russell.

Canaan.—Elder James Grimes.

Enon.—T. A. Anderson.

Ruhama.—Elders A. J. Waldrop, E. B. Waldrop, John McDonald, E. Y. Daniel.

Salem.—Elder James Johnson, Wm. McCombs, John Hagood.

Chalybeate Springs.—B. F. Hodges, Wm. Massey.

Pleasant Ridge.—S. T. Huey, J. J. Walker, B. B. Waldrop.

Hopewell.—A. J. Tadlock.

Cahaba.—M. K. Vann, D. N. Talley, D. H. Vann, R. K. Vann.

Sulphur Spring.—Rev. J. M. Huey, R. Y. Robertson, C. Freeman.

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Shady Grove, Village Creek, Rock Creek and New Liberty churches were not represented.

The body then went into the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of A. J. Waldrop, Moderator, E. B. Waldrop, Clerk, T. V. B. Moor, Corresponding Secretary, D. N. Talley, Treasurer.

A committee on devotion was then appointed consisting of the deacons of Springville church, John McDonald and M. K. Vann from the body.

An opportunity was then offered to other churches wishing to unite with the body, thereupon a letter was presented from Central Church by her messengers, T. A. Melton and J. W. Sherbet, asking membership in the body, and on motion the church was received and her delegates invited to seats.

Called for correspondence from other bodies, the following associations were represented:

Tuscaloosa.—Letter and minutes by her messenger, W. F. Goodson.

Cahaba Valley.—J. T. Steele.

Harmony.—A package of minutes by S. T. Huey.

Sulphur Springs.—Letter and minutes.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

On Arrangements for Business.—J. H. Hendon, A. J. Nunnelly, R. Y. Robertson.

On Documents.—J. M. Huey, J. W. Johnson, J. J. Walker.

On Finance.—T. V. B. Moor, N. F. Miles.

Returned correspondence to other bodies:

Warrior River.—Elders James Johnson, M. E. Buck.

Coosa River.—A. J. Nunnelly, T. D. Bradford.

North River.—Elders B. M. Waldrop, J. M. Huey.

Cahaba Valley.—Elder A. J. Waldrop, T. V. B. Moor, M. H. Hatter.

Shelby.—Elder James Grimes, R. Y. Robertson.

Tuscaloosa.—Elders J. H. Hendon, E. B. Waldrop.

Harmony.—S. T. Huey.

Sulphur Springs.—Elder H. G. Smith, T. A. Anderson.

Baptist State Convention.—A. J. Waldrop, J. H. Hendon,

James Grimes T. V. B. Moor, J. M. Huey, E. Y. Daniel, John McDonald, E. B. Waldrop, Thos. Herring, A. J. Nunnelly, R. Y. Robertson.

The committee on devotions made the following report: That the sessions of this body be opened by such devotional exercises as the Moderator may see proper to select. Preaching to-night at 7 p. m., by Elder E. B. Waldrop; tomorrow at 1 1a. m., by Rev. J. M. Huey.

On motion of J. H. Hendon, the Constitution of this body was so changed that each church belonging to this body shall be entitled to five delegates instead of three.

On motion agreed to have the Constitution printed in the minutes of this session.

Fixed the hours of meeting and adjournment of the body during the present session. Meet at 9 a. m., adjourn at 11 a. m. for preaching and dinner; meet at half past one p. m., adjourn at will.

On motion of T. V. B. Moor, filled the vacancies on standing committees.

On Education.—R. W. Beck, R. E. Huey, R. Tims.

Home and Foreign Missions.—J. M. Russell, E. B. Waldrop, T. V. B. Moor.

Adjourned—prayer by R. Tims.

SATURDAY, Oct. 4, 9 A. M.

Met according to adjournment; prayer by J. H. Hendon.

The house was called to order by the Clerk, the Moderator having been called away to preach the funeral of sister Bishop.

On motion of J. M. Russell, brother A. J. Nunnelly was elected Moderator *pro tem.*

Called for report of Committee on Arrangement for Business which was adopted.

On motion of J. M. Russell, a committee of three were appointed to draft suitable resolutions in regard to the death of brother W. J. Eubank. The Moderator appoint-

ed J. M. Russell, John McDonald and E. B. Waldrop such committee.

Appointed J. H. Hendon, James Grimes, T. V. B. Moor Committee on Nominations, with request to report this evening.

On motion fixed the hour of 2 o'clock p. m. to-day for hearing report on Sunday Schools.

Called for report on Home and Foreign Missions; the committee asked further time, which was granted.

Called for report on Education; committee reported not ready, further time granted.

Heard the report on Documents which was adopted:

We your committee of Documents report: 1. The letters of the various churches, and find as a general rule, they are in a prosperous condition. 2. That two of them, viz: Canaan and Pleasant Ridge ask for the sitting of the next Association.

J. M. HUEY, Chairman.

Heard the report on State Missions, which was read by J. H. Hendon. The report was discussed by R. Tims, R. W. Beck and J. H. Hendon. Pending the discussion of the report a collection was taken up in cash and pledges for this Board to the amount of $160. The report was then adopted.

Report on State Missions.

No work inaugurated by the Baptists of Alabama, within the recollection of your committee, has met with the success nor seems so full of promise at the present time, as that entrusted to the State Mission Board of our Convention. From its very commencement the blessing of God has abundantly abided upon it. But it is now in a more prosperous condition than ever before.

During the last year eleven men with the corresponding secretary have been employed in the work of this board, whose labors have been expended in the bounds of thirty-two associations. They have preached two thousand and sixty-nine sermons, preaching often in destitute places and to people who walked fifteen or twenty miles to hear them. Forty-eight persons have been baptized by them and two hundred and sixty-seven have been baptized by the pastors of weak churches where their labor was expended. Ten churches have been organized at important points, and others almost extinct have been saved to the denomination. One hundred and seventy Sabbath Schools and seventy three prayer meetings have been organized, and four hundred and ninety-five religious visits have been made to families and persons.

Since the last meeting of our association Bro. J. E. Cox has been appointed evangelist for this district, and is now engaged in the prosecution of his work.

Your committee recommend that the association come up as one man

to the support of the Board in their efforts to evangelize the State, looking to God for success.

J. H. HENDON, }
N. F. MILES, } Committee.

The hour having arrived for preaching, adjourned. Rev. J. M. Huey delivered quite an acceptable discourse to a very large and orderly assembly—text, Psalms cxxvi, v. 6.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Association assembled according to adjournment; prayer by Elder R. W. Inzer.

Heard the report on nominations which was adopted.

The committee reported the following:

1. The time of meeting of this body, on Friday before the 1st Sabbath in October, 1880, at 11 o'clock a. m.

2. The Introductory Sermon to be preached Friday night at 7 o'clock p. m., by Elder J. H. Hendon, M. M. Wood, alternate. Missionary Sermon by Elder A. J. Waldrop, E. B. Waldrop alternate.

The committee not being able to agree on place, leave it to the body to decide between Canaan and Pleasant Ridge churches.

T. V. B. MOOR, Chairman.

On motion of J. M. Huey, appointed the place of our next meeting by ballot. Pleasant Ridge received a majority of the votes cast.

Correspondence was re-opened, thereupon Elder R. W. Inzer and brethren Roberson and Hodges having come in from the Cahaba Valley Association were invited to seats.

A letter was also read from the Sulphur Springs Association.

Heard the report on Sabbath Schools, which was read by T. V. B. Moor; after remarks by brethren M. K. Vann, J. M. Huey, R. K. Vann, R. Tims and T. V. B. Moor, the report was adopted.

Sabbath School Report.

The purpose of the Sunday School is to sow seeds in the mind and heart that will produce good fruit. In it the highest interests of the soul are investigated. The Lord in His goodness, has seen proper not to reveal unto mortals all that may hereafter be made known unto them. But he has given us the scriptures of eternal truth, wherein we may learn much of His greatness, goodness, mercy and glory. And He has given us capacity to look into these things for ourselves, if we will but take the pains to do so. We have ample time all along the journey of life to drink deep of the wells of God's truth, of which if a man drink they will be in him a well of water springing up unto eternal life.

In the Sabbath School we have systematic plans by which we can

engage in study of the scriptures, Sabbath after Sabbath, month after month, throughout a whole life time and never exhaust or lose interest in the subject, but rather become more and more interested as we learn to conform more and more to the will of Christ.

In making an estimate of the amount of work that has been accomplished by those who have studied the Uniform Lessons during the past four years, we find that the number of verses studied during that time as lesson texts alone, aside from Golden Texts and References, amount to two thousand and forty-eight verses, or about an average of ten verses a week. Casually viewed this may seem a small work and of little value, but when the vast number of precious truths which these verses contain, and the impressions produced, and the lives and characters that have been shaped and turned into the proper channels by them, are viewed, it swells into *immensity*.

Impressed with the importance of the work, your committee feel it a duty to call attention to two flagrant evils that exist in our bounds, with the hope that at this meeting measures will be adopted and plans inaugurated that will counteract them. First, the number of Sabbath Schools in this Association is far short of what it should be. Second, the number of idlers in the Lord's vineyard is so great as to cause us to fear the Lord will frown upon us as a people, for the manner in which many professing christianity, spend their Sabbath day. The injunctions, "forsake not the assembling of yourselves," etc., "search the scriptures," "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly," etc., all seem to go unheeded. To correct these evils we recommend the appointment of a committee of five whose duty it shall be to organize all the Sunday Schools in our bounds into a "Sunday School Institute," hold meetings for the discussion of Sunday School and other religious subjects; at each meeting receive reports from all the Sunday Schools, giving statistics and accounts of the state of the work; organize new schools whenever practicable; urge the importance of full and regular attendance at Sunday Schools. And to the Churches and Sabbath Schools we would recommend that committees be appointed to canvass the entire membership in reference to their duty to attend Sabbath Schools, and that they co-operate with the S. S. Institute in the manner indicated above. And to all we recommend fervent prayer to Almighty God for his blessings on the Sunday School work. We further recommend that the Superintendents of all the schools in this Association make a report at least one month before the meeting of the Association, to the chairman of the S. S. Committee, giving history of the S. S. work in their churches, statistics of the schools, etc.

We find the work performed in the three districts during the Associational year to be as follows: In the First District there were four interesting meetings held at Salem, Ruhama, Cahaba, and at a school house near Springville. Organized one Sunday School. The committee believe much and lasting good was accomplished in these meetings. The Second District held one good meeting. Your committee are not informed as to the work in the Third District. There are in this Association eleven Sunday Schools with an enrollment of 530 pupils and teachers. Respectfully submitted.

T. V. B. MOOR,
R. TIMS.
A. J. NUNNELLY,
} Committee.

The Moderator then appointed the following brethren as Sabbath School Committee for the Association during the ensuing year, viz: T. V. B. Moor, M. K. Vann, R. J. Waldrop, N. F. Miles, J. M. Huey.

On motion agreed to meet to-night at 7 o'clock p. m., to finish up the business of the present session.

The report on Education was then read by brother R. E. Huey, and after some alterations was adopted, as follows:

Report on Education.

We believe that education without christianity is a failure. And while education may often assist and be of service to the cause of christianity, yet education without christianity, is often no better than a curse. We believe the history of christianity in the world fully sustains this idea. But when the mind is well stored with useful knowledge, and that knowledge is consecrated to the service of God and christianity, it becomes a power for good. As a thorough education developes and brings to the surface all the latent powers of the intellect, so, likewise, christianity in the heart developes and brings out all those higher powers of the soul. How important it is that the mind and heart should be correctly educated?

The Clerk and J. H. Hendon were appointed to draft a form of letter for the churches to use in sending up their annual report to the Association. Adjourned.

NIGHT SESSION, 7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Met according to adjournment; prayer by Elder James Grimes.

Called for report on Home and Foreign Missions, which was read by the Clerk, Elder J. H. Weatherly, the writer, not being present. After remarks by J. H. Hendon and R. W. Inzer, the following resolution was adopted as an amendment to the report:

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend all our churches to take up a collection at least once a year for the Home Mission Board, located at Marion, Ala., also a like collection for the Foreign Mission Board, located at Richmond, Va.

The report was then adopted:

Report of Committee on Home and Foreign Missions.

The gospel is "glad tidings of great joy which shall be to all people." It was prompted by the love of God for us "while we were yet sinners." He sent His only begotten Son into the world to save sinners. Jesus came, lowering himself to the humblest circumstances of men, but rejoicing in his work. He first preached this gospel himself he being then the only preacher. Having finished his work, and being ready to go to his Father, he sent his twelve apostles to preach. Apostles means those sent sent away or from, and thus these chosen men of God were sent from the Savior to preach the unsearchable riches of God's grace. They in obedience to orders, began at home, "at Jerusalem," but they did not stay there to convert everybody, but they preached,

and collected the disciples into churches, and they hasted away into other parts, telling the glorious news wherever they went, until the gospel had been preached throughout Judea, Asia Minor, Capidocia, Macedonia, Spain, Northern Africa, Brittain, and, in fact, in every known region of the world. But everybody was not converted, and new generations were being born into the world: so that the great world continued to roll on, and "the little stone cut out of the mountain" must needs roll. The wise, the great, kings and peoples, rose against it, and though the disciples of Jesus have been hunted down and put to death "for Christ's sake," yet they who bring glad tidings have never ceased to run to and fro through the earth, telling the news and testifying to its power and excellence, and "the kingdoms of this world are fast becoming the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ." Heathen Europe, with its 300 millions, has been virtually subdued, and is now under the influence of the gospel. The haughty mistress of the world, Romanism, clothed in the garments of christianity, has at last had the arm of her power effectually broken, we trust, and to-day a splendid edifice occupied by a veritable Baptist church, lifts its lovely head under the shadows of the Vatican itself. Over in Asia, with its marvellous multitudes and its time honored idolatry, in India, in China, in Japan, multitudes, thousands, have been converted and are being converted to-day. Self-sustaining churches have been established, well organized schools founded, and the eventual evangelization of those iron-bound nations of a mysterious antiquity can no longer be doubted. Indeed, the success of the gospel in Asia is sublimely grand and cheers and encourages the christian heart, looking with longing, prayerful eyes to the spread of God's kingdom and the coming of His Christ. It is another grand miracle, testifying to the truth of prophecy and the power of God's truth. And this is the work of a few missionaries—a few faithful self-denying men and women, supported by the contributions of Christian's and God's grace.

Our own beloved America, with its free governments and its civilization is a grand display of the spread of the gospel. "The iles of the sea," too, have heard the voice of the preacher, and whole nations have literally been born into the kingdom. Even some of the wild tribes of the poor red man of America, inconquerable by the sword, through the efforts of a few earnest missionaries, have buried the tomahawk and taken up the plow, and have built themselves comfortable homes, churches and school houses.

This is the history of civilization, of christian civilization, and when viewed fairly, is marvellous. All this has been accomplished by long and painful efforts, amid floods of tears and streams of blood. Slow, slow, was the progress, for many long centuries, and slow it yet seems to some, but infidels and doubting christians should close their mouths now. "The Lord of hosts hath triumphed gloriously," the gospel is a sublime success. What may be done even in our day, by patient, prayerful effort, might astonish us could we foresee it. We have the accumulated testimony and moral influence of all this success. Let our hearts be encouraged. J. H. WEATHERLY, Chairman.

The report of the Finance Committee was then read and adopted, which see in statistical table.

Heard the report of special committee on the death of brother W. J. Eubank. The committee reported the following:

Since the convening of this body, it has pleased the Lord to remove from earth our esteemed brother W. J. Eubank, who died last night,

the 3rd inst., at Mr. James Wilson's, father-in-law of our brother. His death was not unexpected by his many friends, having been confined to his bed for three months with a lingering painful illness, which reduced him to a mere skeleton before his death. He bore his sufferings with great patience and christian resignation, professing a desire to live that he might be useful to the church and to his family, yet at the same time he was resigned to the will of the Lord, being assured, that whether his life was spared or taken, all was well. Brother Eubank professed religion when quite young and was baptised by Elder A. J. Waldrop into the fellowship of Sulphur Spring Church, of which he lived a consistent and useful member for a number of years. At the time of his death he was a member of Ruhama Church, having removed to that community some two years ago. All who knew our brother knew him but to love him—always the same calm, dignified christian gentleman, in all the relationships of life. We can truly say a good man has gone, and we mourn the untimely loss of such a true christian and useful citizen, but we bow in meek submission to the will of Him who cannot do wrong. We tender our sympathies to his bereaved family.

J. M. RUSSELL, Chairman.

Report of Treasurer.

Recived for State Missions	$101 55
" for M. M. Wood, beneficiary of Howard College	135 00
" for Printing Minutes of Association	30 25
	$266 80

CR.

Paid to J. E. Cox, District Evangelist	$ 81 80
Paid to M. M. Wood	135 00
Paid to Clerk	30 25
	$247 05
Balance on hand	$19 75

D. N. TALLEY, Treasurer.

On motion the Clerk was instructed to make out an order of business to be observed by the Association at its future meetings.

Agreed that the money raised on to-morrow be divided as follows: One half for State Missions, the other half to be equally divided between the Home and Foreign Mission Boards.

The business of the Association being finished, the brethren came forward and presented to Elder H. G. Smith $10 20 in cash, as a testimonial of their appreciation of his services in former years, he being now old and infirm.

The following resolution was then offered and adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are hereby tendered to the Springville Church, and to citizens of the town and vicinity, for the hospitable manner with which they have entertained the delegates during the session of this body.

After suitable remarks by the Moderator, an appropriate hymn was sung and the parting hand taken at the close of which prayer was offered by Elder H. G. Smith.

Adjourned to meet with Pleasant Ridge Church, Jefferson county, Ala., Friday before the First Sabbath in October, 1880.

A. J. NUNNELLY, Moderator, *pro tem.*

E. B. WALDROP, Clerk.

SABBATH.

At 11 o'clock a. m. the Missionary Sermon was preached by Elder J. H. Hendon, at the close of which a collection was taken up for missions to the amount of $12 15. There was preaching at 3 o'clock p. m. at the same house by E. B. Waldrop; at 7 p. m. by the pastor of the church, Elder A. J. Waldrop. Also preaching at the colored church at 3 o'clock p. m. by Elder James Grimes.

Through mistake standing committees failed to be appointed at the Association. The following brethren are requested to report upon the subjects assigned them, at our next meeting:

On Sabbath Schools—N. F. Miles.

On Education—R. J. Waldrop.

On State Missions—J. H. Weatherly.

On Home and Foreign Missions—M. M. Wood.

CONSTITUTION

CANAAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be known by the name of the CANAAN ASSOCIATION OF UNITED BAPTISTS.

ART. 2. It shall be formed of delegates from all the churches who may connect themselves with this union

ART. 3. Any church may be admitted into this Association by the general consent of the members present at any regular meeting.

ART. 4. Any church may withdraw from this body, at its own discretion, on application for dismission.

ART. 5. This Association may, at any regular meeting, declare a dissolution of union with any church deemed corrupt, either in doctrine or practice.

ART. 6. Any church in this Association may send Five Delegates, to be chosen by the church sending them.

ART. 7. At each session of the Association, a Moderator, a Recording and a Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer shall be chosen by ballot, who shall hold their office until successors are elected.

ART. 8. The design of this body is to promote the cause of true religion within the several churches of which it is, or may be composed, by domestic missions, the education of pious and promising young men hopefully called of God to the ministry, and by such other benevolent plans, so far as the churches may enable them by their voluntary contributions.

ART. 9. In addition to the objects specified in the foregoing article, this Association will extend its favorable regard to all the benevolent plans now cherished by evangelical christians.

ART. 10. As it respects the internal concerns of the churches, this body shall have no authority, but shall be considered merely as an advisory council.

ART. 11. As it respects our external, or general concerns, and for the mutual benefit of the churches composing this union, it shall be the duty of each church to forward with their delegates, a written communication to every annual meeting, specifying the names of their delegates and state of their church.

ART. 12. Any church being thoroughly convinced that she has a member called of the Lord to the work of the ministry, and feeling it her duty to send him out to preach the Gospel shall call from two or more churches the aid of their ministers, who in connection with the church, shall examine the candidate, and if deemed qualified, may license him to preach the gospel among the churches at discretion—which shall be reported to the Association and entered upon the minutes.

ART. 13. Any church in this body having a preacher whom she deems worth of ordination, shall call a Presbytery of ministers, from sister churches to officiate in the work and all Presbyteries, in ordaining ministers or deacons, or in constituting churches, shall be governed by the Abstract of Faith adopted by this Association.

ART. 14. The business of this Association shall be (when deemed necessary) committed to a board of seven members, five of whom shall

constitute a quorum to transact business, and make report to the next session of the Association.

ART. 15. The delegates from the churches shall be considered as holding their appointments until others are appointed to succeed them.

ART. 16. This constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present at any annual meeting.

ART. 17. The meetings of this body shall be held at such time and place as may be agreed upon by a majority of the members present.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	Baptized	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Died	Total in Fellowship	Contributions for Missions	
Birmingham	J. H. Heacon		6	4	6		2	120	$2	50
Canaba	A. J. Waldrop	10	5	4			5	181	5	60
Canaan	C. T. Lee	3	3		2		1	64	2	05
Central	W. J. Lee								1	00
Chalybeate Springs	James Grimes			1	2			57	1	55
Enon	M. M. Wood	5	1					35	2	00
Good Hope	W. J. McCraney									
Hopewell				2		1		33		75
Pleasant Ridge	E. B. Waldrop	18	5	1	3		1	62	2	50
Rock Creek	John Gilbert									
Ruhama	A. J. Waldrop	5	2		2			120	2	75
Salem	E. B. Waldrop	1	10	3	1	1	1	77	1	80
Shady Grove	J. Mill									
Springville	A. J. Waldrop	4	3	2				129	3	00
Sulphur Spring	E. B. Waldrop			3				40	3	00
Village Creek	B. M. Waldrop		2				1	25	1	70